# Lesson 9: Getting Around Green

Target Skill: Talking about city commutes, public transit, and eco-friendly travel • Pronunciation: Phrasal verb stress & linking

STEP 1 • HOOK & VISUAL PREDICTION

## E-Scooter Commute or Rapid Rail?

Look closely at the two scenes below. Before reading the scripts, discuss with a partner: **How do you usually get to school or meet friends in town, and what is the fastest way across your city during rush hour?**



**Zoe (16, Vancouver):** Glides down a tree-lined protected bike lane on her e-scooter to beat morning traffic.



**Ethan & Clara (17, Seattle):** Check a paper transit map outside the light-rail station before hopping across town.

STEP 2 · MONOLOGUE (LISTEN OR READ ALOUD)

## Script A: Zoe's Zero-Traffic Commute

**Reading Guide:** Read Zoe's monologue aloud at an energetic, natural pace. Emphasize the **bold** syllables and take a brief pause at each **/** slash mark.

> **AUDIO TRACK HTE-T109-A · SOLO READ-ALOUD · ZOE (16)**
>
> "Taking the bus used to take me **for**ty minutes in rush hour, / so last spring I switched to an e-**scoo**ter. / I zip straight down the protected **bike** lane, / cut through the **park** by the library, / and reach the school gates in **twelve** minutes flat. / Honestly, it saves me a **ton** of time and keeps my mornings simple.·

STEP 2B • PAIR DIALOGUE (READ ALOUD)

## Script B: Ethan & Clara at the Rail Station

**Reading Guide:** Work in pairs. Student A reads **Ethan**; Student B reads **Clara**. Sound focused yet upbeat as you plan your route, then switch roles.

> **AUDIO TRACK HTE-T109-B · PAIR READ-ALOUD · ETHAN & CLARA (17)**
>
> **Ethan:** “Hold **on**—if we hop on the Green Line here, / we’ll get **off** right next to the science museum.”
>
> **Clara:** “Smart **move**! / My phone battery’s down to **four** percent, / so I’m glad we grabbed a **pa**per map at the ticket desk.”
>
> **Ethan:** “The next train pulls **in** in three minutes. / Let’s tap our **pass**es and head up to the platform!”

STEP 3 • HOW TO SAY IT

## Natural Teen Transit & City Travel Phrases

| Natural Phrase | Meaning | Teen Example |
|---|---|---|
| **Rush hour** | The busiest time of day when roads and trains are packed | “Never take the main road during rush hour.” |
| **Zip down / across** | Move very quickly and smoothly from one place to another | “Bikes can zip down the cycle path in minutes.” |
| **Cut through (a place)** | Take a shorter route across a park, square, or alley | “Let’s cut through the park to save ten minutes.” |
| **In [time] flat** | In exactly that short amount of time, with zero delay | “He walked to the station in five minutes flat.” |
| **Hop on / get off** | Board or leave a bus, train, tram, or ferry casually | “We’ll hop on the tram and get off at Central.” |
| **Carbon footprint** | The total greenhouse gases caused by your travel and habits | “Cycling to college shrinks your carbon footprint.” |

STEP 4 • YOUR TURN (WRITTEN & SPOKEN PRODUCTION)

## Design a Green City Transport Plan




**Inspiration — Arjun, Sofia & Hannah (16, Toronto):** Sketching an eco-metro, e-bus loop, and protected bike network for their school sustainability challenge.

### Part A: Quick Check & Personalization

1. How much time did Zoe save on her morning commute by switching to an e-scooter?
2. Why was Clara relieved that they picked up a paper transit map at the station?
3. Write two sentences describing your daily journey to school or a shortcut you take in your neighbourhood. Use at least **two phrases** from the Step 3 table:

### Part B: 3-Minute Green City Pitch (Groups of 3)

Imagine you and two classmates are presenting a **Green City Transport Plan** to your local youth council like Arjun, Sofia, and Hannah. Prepare a **60-second pitch** covering:

- **The Congestion Problem:** Identify one busy street or school route that gets jammed during rush hour.
- **Your Eco Upgrade:** Propose a new protected bike lane, solar e-bus route, or eco-metro link so teens can zip across town in minutes flat.
- **The Student Perk:** Suggest one youth transit pass discount or reward that encourages students to shrink their carbon footprint.

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